

Serial No. 09/929,048

Docket No.: 1614.1179

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 11, 16, 17, 20 and 21 are cancelled, claims 1, 12, 15, and 18-20 are amended and new claim 22 is added. Claims 1-10, 12-15, 18-20 and 22 are pending.

In the Action, claims 11, 16-17, 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) for anticipation by Hashimoto while independent claim 1 and related dependent claims 1-3 and 5-10 and 14 are allowed and claims 12-13, 15, 18 and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but as being allowable if suitably rewritten into independent form.

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1 and 16 have been corrected as suggested by the Examiner at page 2 of the Action, as to the typographical errors in those claims as presented in the Amendment filed September 29, 2004; the Examiner's helpful suggestion is greatly appreciated.

Likewise, claim 15 has been corrected as suggested by the Examiner also at page 2 of the Action, which likewise is appreciated.

Further, claims 12, 15, 18 and 19 have been rewritten into independent form and thus are submitted to be allowable, along with claim 13/12. In addition, claim 20/17 has been amended to claim 20/12 and thus is allowable and further has been rewritten as new claim 22/15 which likewise is allowable.

Conclusion

In accordance with the foregoing, all pending claims are submitted to be allowable and, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

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If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 17, 2005

By: 

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to: Commissioner for Patents,
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on 3-17, 2005

STAAS & HALSEY

By: 

Date 3-17-05